

## **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)**



## Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)

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## Topic Area: Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

### Action Item

*Develop interim guidance on Community Advisory Groups (CAGs) and establish CAGs at ten pilot Superfund sites.*

### Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

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The Office of Emergency and Remedial Response (OERR) and Regional community relations staff completed and circulated draft guidance on Community Advisory Groups (CAGs) to the Regions for review and comment. When Regional comments are complete, OERR will produce the final interim guidance. The guidance provides direction for establishing CAGs to promote early, direct, and meaningful community involvement in the Superfund process especially at sites with environmental justice concerns.

OERR also held preliminary discussions with Regional staff resulting in the identification of 14 potential CAG sites in communities with environmental justice concerns. In January 1995, OERR requested that Regions officially submit the proposed pilot CAG sites early by February 1995. EPA will closely monitor the development and implementation of CAGs. The experience gained through the pilot may allow the initiative to be expanded to more sites.

#### Completed Milestones

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 7/94 | Attended the National Community Relations/Technical Assistance Grant Conference in Denver to discuss CAGs. |
| 1/95 | Sent draft guidance on CAGs to Regions for review and comment.   |
| 1/95 | Sent a memo to Regions requesting the formal identification of ten pilot CAG sites.                        |

#### Contact

Diana Hammer, (703) 603-8775.

### Region 1

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Region 1 established and has been interacting extensively with CAGs at two Superfund sites with environmental justice concerns: New Bedford, Massachusetts, and Pine Street Canal, Vermont. EPA meets bi-weekly with community members at both sites to address community concerns and to reach agreement on issues concerning the scope of work and remedy selection. A risk assessment, currently underway at the Pine Street Canal Site, is evaluating the risk to subsistence fishermen from a Vietnamese community who use the Canal fish resources as a food source. The Region is working with the New Bedford Harbor CAG to conduct treatability studies on alternatives to

incineration. The New Bedford community consists of a high percentage of low-income and minority residents including a large Portuguese community, many of whom do not speak English. Additional remedial investigation work is currently scheduled for Fall 1995.

### **Completed Milestones**

- 9/94            Selected pilot sites.
- 12/94          Developed a process model for community involvement.

### **Contacts**

Ross Gilleland, (617) 573-5766 (New Bedford)

Sheila Eckman, (617) 573-5784 (New Bedford)

Dave Dickerson, (617) 573-5735 (Pine Street Canal)

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

## **Region 2**

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Region 2 chose the Diamond Alkali Superfund site, which has potential environmental justice concerns, to pilot the formation of a CAG. The community is predominately African-American and Hispanic. Region 2 selected CAG members and sponsored a CAG meeting for the site. At the CAG's request, the Region obtained guest speakers on EPA's dioxin reassessment work, the State of New Jersey Department of Health epidemiological work completed in the area, the Newark Bay seafood consumption advisories, and Region 2's Harbor Estuary Program. To update the community on site activities and status, the Region generated and distributed two trilingual fact sheets on the Diamond Alkali Superfund site. In addition, the Region held a special site visit and roundtable discussion for members of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes, a local advocacy group. In the coming year, the Region will hold additional CAG meetings, hold a public meeting, and distribute additional fact sheets.

### **Completed Milestones**

- 3/94            Distributed fact sheets.
- 6/94            Selected pilot Superfund site.
- 6/94            Selected CAG members.
- 7/94            Held first CAG meeting.
- 11/94          Held site visit and discussion with Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes.

### **Contacts**

Pat Seppi, (212) 264-9369

Lance Richman, (212) 264-6695

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

## Region 4

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The Region selected sites with environmental justice concerns at Chattanooga Creek, Tennessee, and the Escambia Treatment Plant, Pensacola, Florida, as CAG pilot sites. Region 4 also is working closely with the Hazardous Substances Research Center/South & Southwest to develop the Technical Outreach Services for Communities Program. The program's goal is to provide training workshops to communities on technical aspects of environmental pollution based on the specific needs of the community. The workshop will enhance the communities' ability to participate in the decision-making process and will be a good tool for training CAG members.

### Completed Milestones

8/94        Selected Superfund CAG pilot sites.  
11/94       Selected CAG members for each site.  
1/95        Held first CAG meeting.

### Contacts

Cindy Weaver, (404) 347-5059

Rose Jackson, (404) 347-7791

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

## Region 5

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Region 5 is coordinating its public participation efforts with the Community Working Group planned by the Office of Public Affairs and the Office of Superfund Outreach and Marketing Team. Seven candidate communities/sites are on the pilot selection list with one to two sites designated as environmental justice CAG pilot sites.

### Contact

Marilou Martin (312) 353-9660

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

## Region 6

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Region 6 staff presented information at workshops and open houses on how the predominantly African-American community at the Agriculture Street Landfill site in New Orleans, Louisiana, can form a CAG to address potential environmental justice concerns. The Region is working closely with residents to provide assistance in establishing a formal CAG and will combine this effort with Economic Redevelopment efforts to determine which related redevelopment efforts can be coordinated with Superfund activities through outreach and participation in site CAGs.

### **Completed Milestones**

10/94        Selected the Agriculture Street Landfill site to pilot a CAG.

10-12/94    Presented information on forming CAGs at workshops and open houses.

### **Contact**

Verne McFarland, (214) 665-6617

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

## **Region 7**

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Region 7 screened environmental justice Superfund sites within the Region and identified the Oronogo-Dunweg Superfund site as its pilot CAG site. The community around this site consists of a predominantly low-income population. The Region is currently selecting CAG members and plans to hold the first CAG meeting by September 1995.

### **Completed Milestones**

9/94        Selected CAG pilot site.

### **Contact**

Gayle Padgett, (913) 551-7914

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

## **Region 8**

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Region 8 developed criteria to evaluate potential CAG sites. The criteria are (1) community dynamics, (2) community issues that are not EPA activities but which may be affected by EPA activities, (3) real or perceived environmental justice issues, (4) community interest in the site or in having a CAG at the site, and (5) timing of activities at the site.

### **Completed Milestones**

9/94        Developed criteria to evaluate potential CAG sites.

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

## **Region 9**

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Region 9 screened its Superfund sites to determine which ones might be most appropriate for the establishment of CAGs. The screening process, which involved applying the Headquarters criteria to specific site and community situations, identified about 12 sites as potential candidates. Using additional input from community relations coordinators, remedial project managers (RPMs), and managers, the Region narrowed



the field to two or three candidate sites. In March 1995, the Region selected the Del Amo/Montrose Superfund site, a site with environmental justice concerns, to pilot the formation of a CAG.

**Completed Milestones**

- 11/94 Conducted initial screening of Superfund sites to determine 12 sites appropriate for the formation of CAGs.
- 1/95 Narrowed the initial list of potential sites.
- 3/95 Selected pilot site.

**Contact**

Andy Bain, (415) 744-2185

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships topic area.]

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**Region 10**

Region 10 is in the process of evaluating an appropriate pilot site for a CAG. An environmental justice questionnaire will be used to gauge the level of environmental justice concerns at the site. If, as a result of the questionnaire, EPA Headquarters determines that the site warrants environmental justice attention, the Region will consider the site for a CAG. Region 10 expects to identify its pilot proposal upon completion of its Administrative Reforms Implementation Plan.

**Contact**

Michelle Pirzadeh, (206) 553-1272

**Action Item**

*Establish site-specific Federal coordination groups for issues outside Superfund jurisdiction.*

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**Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

In January 1995, OERR sent a memo to Regions requesting that the Regions establish interagency working groups for sites with problems beyond the scope of Superfund. Interagency working groups will help meet the needs of local communities in instances where these needs are beyond the mandate of the Superfund program. These community needs and concerns include interior lead contamination and environmental education. The effectiveness of these working groups will depend on the willingness of the agencies involved to cooperate and work toward meeting community needs. In September 1995, OERR will send a memo to the Regions recognizing sites with established interagency working groups. EPA will closely monitor the development and implementation of the interagency working groups to promote full participation and cooperation of other agencies in responding to community problems.

### **Completed Milestones**

1/95 Sent a memo to Regions in January 1995 requesting that the Regions establish interagency working groups for sites with problems beyond the scope of Superfund.

### **Contact**

Diana Hammer, (703) 603-8775

### **Action Item**

*Conduct a pilot proactive site assessment program.*

## **Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

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OERR developed three site assessment activities to address environmental justice. First, OERR established Tribal Site Discovery Cooperative Agreements to identify previously undiscovered sites. OERR received Regional proposals for candidates to pilot this effort and selected the Seneca Nation (Region 2) and the Navajo Nation (Region 9) to pilot this effort. In addition to Tribal activity, OERR will provide a grant to a non-profit organization, the Northeast Hazardous Substance Research Center, to develop a program for community organizations to become involved in site identification. Finally, OERR will conduct a geographical pilot initiative to select two areas, where community groups have raised concerns, to assess the impacts of individual sites and as a collective group to develop strategies for appropriate actions.

### **Completed Milestones**

9/94 Requested Regional proposals for the geographical pilot initiative.  
11/94 Met with the Northeast Hazardous Substance Research Center.  
1/95 Received regional proposals to conduct a Tribal site discovery pilot.  
2/95 Allocated funds for Cooperative Agreements to two Tribes to identify previously undiscovered sites for assessments.

### **Contact**

Yolanda Ting, (703) 603-8835

## **Region 1**

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The correction of inaccurate site coordinates in Region 1 is approximately 80 percent complete. Accurate coordinates are essential to identify potential sites with environmental justice concerns. Site coordinates are being corrected manually for the majority of sites on the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS). Massachusetts site coordinates are corrected and the Region is compiling coordinates for sites in Connecticut through the geographic positioning system (GPS) unit siting by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. The Region's Site Assessment Group completed a preliminary analysis of site assessment decisions concerning environmental justice using demographic data on low-income and minority population percentages.

**Completed Milestones**

1/95        Corrected 80 percent of the site coordinates in CERCLIS.

**Contact**

Sharon Hayes, (617) 573-5709

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**Region 3**

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Region 3 is using the Geographic Information System (GIS) to aid in identifying the socioeconomic makeup of communities being assessed under Superfund. Site Assessment Section personnel first worked with Regional GIS personnel to generate GIS maps depicting minority and poverty distributions for all Superfund Accelerated Cleanup Model (SACM) sites. With this demonstration pilot complete, the Region then amended its policies and procedures for site investigations to include the generation of GIS demographic maps. Regional Site Assessment Managers provide GIS maps depicting minority and poverty distributions for all SACM/Regional decision team (RDT) meetings to help incorporate environmental justice considerations into SACM decision-making.

Since August 30, 1994, the SACM/RDT committee has sought to identify Environmental Justice areas at 13 pre-remedial National Priorities List (NPL) sites by means of the GIS maps and amended SACM criteria forms. To identify populations with potential environmental justice concerns, the amended forms require specific data regarding significant minority and poverty populations.

**Contact**

James McCreary, (215) 597-7214

[Note: This entry is also reported under the GIS topic area.]

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**Region 4**

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Using its GIS capabilities, Region 4 developed a proactive site discovery program to identify CERCLA sites, resulting in easier identification of sites in areas with potential environmental justice concerns. The Region used GIS to identify geographic areas that are both densely populated and industrialized. The Region will use several methods (including tax maps, zoning maps, aerial photography, reconnaissance, information from local municipalities, and Toxic Release Inventory) to identify populations that are adjacent to or surrounded by polluting industries within the identified geographic areas. GIS maps have been created for areas with environmental justice concerns in Georgia including Tifton, Augusta, and Brunswick. As areas of concern are identified, they will be added to specific information about the site and potential environmental justice concerns.

**Completed Milestones**

9/94        Developed proactive site discovery program.

1/95        Generated GIS maps to identify densely populated and moderately to highly industrialized areas in the Region.

### **Contact**

John McKeown, (404) 347-5059

[Note: This entry is also reported under the GIS topic area.]

## **Region 5**

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Region 5's RCRA and Superfund programs have been working together to coordinate the acquisition and development of GIS capability in the Region's waste management division. Both programs use GIS in targeting the efforts of their respective programs and anticipating potential environmental justice concerns in communities around Region 5 sites and facilities. To support GIS, the Waste Management Division has established five graphic workstations with CD-ROM drives.

### **Completed Milestones**

9/94 Purchased CD-ROM drives and Census Bureau map files for RCRA.

### **Contacts**

Marilyn Millard, (312) 886-6224

Mark Horwitz, (312) 353-9045

[Note: This entry is also reported under the GIS topic area.]

## **Region 7**

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Region 7 conducted a screening, using GIS in conjunction with CERCLIS, RCRIS, and demographic information (population density, ethnicity, and income), to identify counties that have large minority or lower income population, and a large number of RCRIS/CERCLIS listings. As a result of this screening, the Region selected St. Louis and St. Louis County as an environmental justice pilot area for more intensive scrutiny. The Region is working to refine the analysis of the area to the lowest possible census tract level. The Region has conducted an address matching process to locate RCRA facilities, CERCLA sites, and air emission sources within the pilot area and is reviewing the results. When the review is complete, the information gained will be added to the Region's GIS. If the study of the St. Louis area is successful, the Region will investigate six other counties in the Region that may have environmental justice concerns based on the original screening.

### **Completed Milestones**

11/93 Screened Region for counties which have a high co-occurrence of minority population, lower income population, and incidence of RCRIS CERCLIS listings.

1/94 Selected St. Louis and St. Louis County as an environmental justice pilot area.

11/94 Established address matching process for facilities in the St. Louis pilot area.

**Contact**

David Doyle, (913) 551-7667

[Note: This entry is also reported under the GIS topic area.]

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**Region 8**

The Region provided the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) a series of GIS maps delineating the minority and poverty areas of the State for use in active site discovery activities. The Region asked CDPHE to look at Southern Colorado for potential sites that have not yet been assessed by the Superfund program. CDPHE has a cooperative agreement that provides some limited funding for site discovery activities. If sites are identified, preliminary assessments will be scheduled. In addition, the site assessment program has provided similar GIS maps to Utah and Montana, which also have active discovery programs. Sites with environmental justice concerns may be identified in these States. The program has also sent letters to each Native American Tribe in the Region informing them directly of the status of sites currently in CERCLIS and requesting information on any potential sites that the Tribes may want to identify for assessment.

**Completed Milestones**

10/94      Worked with State and Tribal officials to implement project.

**Contact**

Paul Arell, (303) 294-7658

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**Region 9**

Region 9 has conducted proactive site assessment around the area of Verdese Carter Park, East Oakland, California, a community with environmental justice concerns. This included the collation of data by standard industrial code for the purpose of aggregating like discharges. Evaluation of the sites identified is ongoing. The Region is planning to conduct a pilot site assessment program if funding is received.

**Contacts**

Mike Bellot, (415) 744-2364

Dorothy Wilson, (415) 744-2179

**Action Item**

*Examine whether priority setting methods adequately consider environmental justice concerns.*

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**Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

OERR held a conference call with the Regions to discuss screening priority criteria. Under this initiative, OERR will evaluate screening priority criteria contained in Site

Assessment guidance documents, and compare the criteria to environmental justice health and environmental issues. Criteria will allow consideration of appropriate factors in those areas with high concentrations of minority and low-income populations.

### **Completed Milestones**

2/95          Held a conference call with Regions to discuss screening priority criteria.

### **Contact**

Sharon Frey, (703) 603-8817

## **Region 1**

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Region 1 identified environmental justice screening criteria and considered what was the optimal point to apply criteria in the site assessment pipeline: preliminary assessment (PA) completed, site investigation (SI) completed, hazard ranking scoring (HRS) started, national priorities list (NPL) proposed, or NPL finalized. The Region selected the PA completed and HRS started as the optimal screening points. Screening will be implemented during the second quarter of fiscal year 1995.

### **Completed Milestones**

9/94          Developed environmental justice screening criteria.

9/94          Selected the screening point.

### **Contact**

Carl DeLoi, (617) 573-9645

## **Region 5**

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Region 5 developed a site screening/criteria model in January 1995 to assist in establishing priorities within the Region's Superfund program. Environmental justice concerns have been identified as a qualifier in the site screening/criteria model. In addition, Site Assessment Teams (SATs) routinely evaluate environmental justice concerns as part of the overall assessment. The Regional Decision Making Team (RDT) is briefed by the SATs prior to the final site determinations. Should environmental justice issues exist, the SATs inform the RDT. The RDT would then factor these environmental justice concerns into its prioritization and findings decisions.

### **Completed Milestones**

1/95          Drafted site screening/criteria model that includes environmental justice qualifier.

### **Contact**

Bill Messenger, (312) 353-1057

## Region 10

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Region 10 has initiated an environmental justice effort by defining areas that are ethnically diverse. After identifying affected communities, the Region will narrow the field of potential candidate sites and implement the pilot field-screening of sites starting in September 1995.

### Completed Milestones

11/94      Identified ethnically diverse areas.

### Contact

David Bennett, (206) 553-2103

## Action Item

*Develop supplemental risk assessment guidance in coordination with Agency-wide efforts to address environmental justice.*

## Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

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OERR provided funding for a joint project between Region 9, Region 10, and Office of Research and Development/Environmental Criteria and Assessment Office (ORD/ECAO) (Cincinnati) to develop better estimates of fish consumption in Asian/Pacific populations and will continue to track the progress of this project to identify exposure/risk factors unique to minority and low-income populations. During fiscal year 1996, OERR plans to issue guidance on the use of new exposure and population sensitivity information in Superfund. The new guidance will provide risk assessment tools adequate to address all biologically sensitive individuals or populations that may be exposed to Superfund site threats. The guidance may also address risks posed by sources other than those at a Superfund site (e.g., permitted industrial emissions, lead paint), which will allow for an assessment of cumulative risks.

### Completed Milestones

10/94      Provided funding for a joint project between Regions 9 and 10 and ORD ECAO (Cincinnati) to develop better estimates of fish consumption in Asian/Pacific populations.

### Contact

Lisa Askari, (703) 603-8799

## Region 10

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Region 10 risk assessors are continuing to participate in the Agency Science Policy Steering Committee and the Risk Assessment Forum to develop guidance for cumulative risk. Region 10 risk assessors are also participating in an assessment of cumulative risk to Native Americans on the Columbia River. The data from this assessment will be used to define exposure limits for all Regional actions. An initial draft of the quality assurance project plan has been written and is currently under internal review.

### **Completed Milestones**

- 3/95 Participated in periodic Agency Science Policy Steering Committee and the Risk Assessment Forum.
- 3/95 Completed draft quality assurance project plan of the “Assessment of Chemical Contaminants in Fish Consumed by Four Native American Tribes in the Columbia River Basin” for internal review.

### **Contact**

Pat Cirone, (206) 553-1597

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Health, Cumulative Risk, Synergistic Effects, and Multiple Pathways topic area.]

### **Action Item**

*Evaluate remedy selection and speed of cleanups in communities with environmental justice issues.*

## **Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

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Some stakeholders have questioned whether Superfund sites in minority and/or low-income communities are cleaned up as quickly, or have remedies as protective, as non-minority or high-income sites. OERR is evaluating some of these concerns in an internal statistical and demographic analysis of NPL sites. GIS technology, LandView, and 1990 census data are being used to categorize demographic and median income characteristics of populations living around NPL sites. A better characterization of the population and demographics around sites will greatly improve community relations initiatives, particularly at minority and low-income communities.

### **Completed Milestones**

- 2/95 Analyzed Regional sites with environmental justice concerns.
- 2/95 Completed analysis for all NPL sites.

### **Contact**

Rafael Gonzalez, (703) 603-8892

## **Region 10**

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The Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch of the Region completed a draft report and analysis of Region 10 enforcement actions related to environmental justice. The primary report goals are to identify the distribution of populations surrounding CERCLIS sites in Region 10 by race and income, and to suggest ways Region 10 can mediate any environmental inequities uncovered by the project.

### **Completed Milestones**

- 11/94 Completed draft report.



**Contact**

Joyce Kelly, (206) 553-4029

**Action Item**

*Coordinate indoor lead paint removal with other agencies.*

**Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

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Superfund will work with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and EPA Regional On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) and RPMs to develop a list of Superfund sites having low-income or minority housing that may be eligible for HUD Lead Abatement grants, and will provide information to OSCs and RPMs on how to apply for these grants. There are currently few regulatory options and mechanisms for funding indoor lead paint cleanup. This initiative may help address paint cleanup in housing near some Superfund sites. In October 1994, OERR initiated a survey of past Superfund and other Federal agency decisions regarding how indoor lead paint threats have been addressed, and the results were discussed with Superfund Branch Chiefs. In May 1995, OERR will coordinate with HUD to define a list of Superfund sites where there is low-income or minority housing that may be eligible for HUD Lead Abatement grants. In September 1995, OERR will issue final guidance on addressing indoor lead paint cleanups at Superfund sites with low-income or minority housing HUD Lead Abatement grants.

**Completed Milestones**

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|-------|--|
| 5/94  | Implemented rotational assignments of OERR staff members to HUD to examine HUD options.  |
| 10/94 | Initiated a survey of past Superfund and other Federal agency decisions regarding how indoor lead paint threats have been addressed. |
| 11/94 | Discussed patterns, lead paint survey results, draft options with Superfund Branch Chiefs.   |

**Contact**

Lisa Askari, (703) 603-8799

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Federal Interagency Cooperation topic area.]

**Region 6**

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As part of the Superfund Remedial Investigation at the RSR Corporation (West Dallas Lead) site in Dallas, Texas, Region 6 is working closely with the Dallas Housing Authority (DHA) and indirectly with HUD to address lead contamination in a Federally funded housing project (Operable Unit 2). An in-home sampling project has been completed. This information was used to “calibrate” the lead Uptake Biokinetic model, and will be incorporated into the remedy selection process at all Operable Units, including the DHA/HUD property.

### **Completed Milestones**

- 2/94        Provided sampling results to residents.
- 3/95        Completed demolition of 167 buildings.

### **Contact**

Carl Edlund, (214) 655-6664

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Federal Interagency Cooperation topic area.]

### **Action Item**

*Assist Indian Tribes financially and technically to build response capacity.*

## **Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

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Office of Emergency and Remedial Response's (OERR's) Superfund Tribal Involvement Program continues to work with Native Americans to involve them in the Superfund cleanup process more effectively. OERR is completing the survey report on CERCLIS sites on or near Native American lands. Upon completion, the Region will develop a Tribal Outreach and Implementation Plan based on the CERCLIS sites on Native American lands. The plan may include outreach efforts such as a Superfund Tribal Conference, Funding Application Kits, and training modules. Superfund will continue to offer Tribal governments assistance with existing programs while evaluating how to meet identified training and information needs more effectively.

### **Completed Milestones**

- 5/94        Co-planned the OSWER-sponsored Second National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, hosted by the Eastern Band of the Cherokee in Cherokee, North Carolina.
- 5/94        Conducted Response Agreements Seminar (with Tribal participation) in Region 10 and Emergency Response Workshop with Tribal components.
- 5/94        Developed Local Government Reimbursement module for Tribes as part of First Responders Training in Fall 1994.

### **Contact**

Bruce Engelbert, (703) 603-8711

Diana Hammer, (703) 603-8775

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Native American/Tribal Issues topic area.]

## **Region 4**

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Region 4 will provide Native American Tribes with General Assistance Grants, administered through Region 4's Office of Policy and Management's Federal Activities Branch, for planning, developing, and establishing the capacity to implement pro-

grams administered by EPA. In the area of Superfund, EPA will provide technical assistance in identifying and investigating hazardous waste on Tribal lands. Specifically, where capacity to implement a site discovery/site assessment program exists or is built, the Region will provide funding through cooperative agreements so that the Tribal governments may implement their own site discovery and site assessment programs. The time frame for completing the preliminary assessments of the two existing sites is approximately six months. Completing a preliminary assessment of a site is approximately one year from the date of its inclusion on CERCLIS. Technical assistance is an ongoing activity.

### **Completed Milestones**

5/94            Informed Tribes of the Superfund process.

12/94           Completed preliminary assessments at two CERCLA sites.

### **Contacts**

Dorothy Rayfield, (404) 347-5059

Arthur Linton, (404) 347-7292

## **Region 5**

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Region 5 continued work on the Bad River Sludge Sites located on the Bad River Reservation, including finalization of a Cooperative Agreement (CA) between EPA and the Tribe. A CA is also under development for the Leech Lake Tribe in conjunction with the St. Regis/Champion Paper Site, located in Cass Lake, Minnesota.

The Region continued Title III training for Tribes requesting the First Responders Course, and conducted three courses hosted by the Grand Portage Reservation, Red Cliff Reservation, and Hannahville Reservation. Training included Title III representation.

### **Contact**

Dan Cozza (312) 886-7252

## **Region 6**

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Region 6 is responsible for creating and implementing the nation's first Tribal environmental consortia. The Region developed and funded Native American-lead Superfund programs for several Native American Nations that now interact directly with the Region in the Superfund decision-making process. The Inter-Tribal Environmental Council's (ITEC's) Office of Environmental Services, through a Superfund Multi-site Cooperative Agreement, is providing the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma with the expertise and skills to investigate and resolve potential hazardous waste sites on Seminole Nation lands. A separate Cherokee Nation multi-media grant has been used, in part, for a multi-Tribal site discovery program that identified three potential sites on Seminole lands. PAs on these sites will be performed upon completion of the ITEC Cooperative Agreement, which is being finalized.

### **Completed Milestones**

9/94      Funded all Native American Superfund program cooperative agreements for fiscal year 1995.

### **Contact**

Mark Satterwhite, (214) 665-8505

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## **Region 9**

Region 9 is focusing on developing the response capacity of the Navajo Nation by awarding site assessment and core grants to assist the Navajo Nation with developing regulations to address hazardous wastes. During the past six months, the Navajo Superfund Program submitted the following deliverables under the Core Program Cooperative Agreement: first draft Navajo Hazardous Substance Code, first draft Navajo Nation Public Participation Manual, and first draft Superfund Memorandum of Agreement for Site Assessments. For Tribes other than the Navajo, the Region is working with Regional States and State Emergency Response Committees to identify the Tribes' training and equipment needs.

### **Milestones Completed**

10/94      Received first draft Navajo Hazardous Substance Code.  
12/94      Received first draft Navajo Nation Public Participation Manual.  
1/95      Received first draft Superfund Memorandum of Agreement for Site Assessments.

### **Contacts**

Carolyn Douglas, (415) 744-2343

Barbara Joy, (415) 744-2202

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## **Region 10**

Region 10's Superfund Program currently has four Support Agency Cooperative Agreements with Tribes covering six sites. The purpose of these agreements is to provide funding to the Tribes to allow full participation in the Superfund process at these sites. Information regarding eligibility and how to apply for these cooperative agreements was provided in a recent Region 10 publication on forms of assistance available to Tribes and was distributed to all Tribes in the Region.

In early 1994, EPA initiated an emergency Superfund removal action to provide temporary drinking water at the Fort Hall Reservation upon the request of the Bannock Tribes. The removal action has been completed and no additional technical EPA support is required at this time.

### **Completed Milestones**

- 5/94      Installed an activated carbon treatment system to treat Fort Hall  
Townsite public well water.
- 6/94      Distributed information to all Tribes.

### **Contact**

Kirk Robinson, (206) 553-1204.  
Bub Loiselle, (206) 553-6901

### **Action Item**

*Establish a pilot program to train minority and/or low-income workers in the hazardous waste cleanup field.*

## **Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

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The opportunity to participate in the economic benefits of a Superfund cleanup is often not available to low-income or minority residents who live close to Superfund sites. This pilot program is designed as a partnership between EPA, HUD, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), other Federal agencies, and the local community, to provide training to minorities and low-income residents in the hazardous waste cleanup field. In Spring 1995, OERR will meet with HUD and HHS to determine services they can provide and develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with HUD and HHS on cooperation in this program, including services they can provide (e.g., transportation, workers, stipends, day care). During the Summer 1995, OERR will select one or more pilot sites for the minority worker training program, including consultation with the site contractor and local community to determine their interest in the program. OERR will involve the community in developing criteria for selecting low-income and/or minority workers at the designated sites. The goal of the initiative is to train apprentices for future employment in the hazardous waste clean-up field. Contractors will employ apprentices who will work under the supervision of a union journeyman. Upon completion of the training, an apprentice may be able to find employment opportunities in the hazardous waste clean-up field.

### **Completed Milestones**

- 8/94      Held a preliminary meeting with HUD and HHS to discuss initiating  
minority worker training program.

### **Contact**

Suzanne Wells, (703) 603-8863

[Note: This entry is also reported under the Federal Interagency Cooperation; the Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships; and the Contracts, Grants, and Labor topic areas.]

